SENATE
COMMITTEES DIRECTORATE



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DIRECTION DES COMITÉS

CANADA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Wednesday, October 28, 2026
(58)

[*English*]

The Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs met this day at 4:17 p.m., in room B30, Senate of Canada Building, the deputy chair, the Honourable Denise Batters, presiding.

Members of the committee present: The Honourable Senators Batters, Clement, Dalphond, McBean, Miville-Dechêne, Oudar, Prosper, Simons, Tannas and Wells (*Alberta*) (10).

Participating in the meeting: Allison Lowenger and Laura Blackmore, Analysts, Library of Parliament.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Thursday, March 12, 2026, the committee began its consideration of Bill S-241, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Indian Act.

WITNESSES:

The Honourable Senator Scott Tannas, sponsor of the bill.

Department of Justice Canada:

Kenyatta Hawthorne, Counsel, Criminal Law Policy Section;

Max Binnie, Senior Counsel and Team Lead, Criminal Law Policy Section.

Indigenous Services Canada:

Lyndon Simmons, Director of Economic Program Management, Lands and Economic Development Branch.

The Honourable Senator Scott Tannas made a statement and answered questions.

At 5:20 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 5:25 p.m., the committee resumed.

Kenyatta Hawthorne and Lyndon Simmons each made a statement and, together with Max Binnie, answered questions.

At 6:19 p.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

ATTEST:

Emily Barrette

Clerk of the Committee